IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)			
Plaintiff,)			
-VS-)	No.	CR-25-	-SLP
)	1,01	011 20	221
ABDULLAH HAJI ZADA,)			
Defendant.)			

PLEA AGREEMENT

Introduction

1. This Plea Agreement, in conjunction with a Plea Supplement filed contemporaneously under seal, contains the entire agreement between Defendant Abdullah Haji Zada and the United States concerning Defendant's plea of guilty in this case. No other agreement or promise exists, nor may any additional agreement be entered into unless in writing and signed by all parties. Any unilateral modification of this Plea Agreement is hereby rejected by the United States. This Plea Agreement applies only to the criminal violations described and does not apply to any civil matter or any civil forfeiture proceeding except as specifically set forth. This Plea Agreement binds only the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma and does not bind any other federal, state, or local prosecuting, administrative, or regulatory authority. If Defendant does not accept the terms of this Plea Agreement by April 14, 2025, the offer is withdrawn.

Transfer Hearing Waiver and Adult Prosecution Stipulation

2. Defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees to waive the hearing on the United States' motion to transfer Defendant for adult prosecution, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 5032, in CR-24-442-SLP (SEALED), and agrees to be prosecuted and sentenced as an adult. Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives Defendant's rights described in this paragraph as of the time Defendant signs this Plea Agreement.

Guilty Plea

3. Defendant agrees to enter a plea of guilty to a one-count Information, charging receiving, conspiring to receive, and attempting to receive firearms and ammunition knowing and having reasonable cause to believe that the firearms and ammunition would be used to commit a Federal crime of terrorism, specifically conspiring and attempting to provide material support and resources to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS), a designated foreign terrorist organization (FTO), in violation of Title 18, United States Code, § 924(h). To be found guilty of violating Title 18, United States Code, § 924(h), as charged in the Information, Defendant must admit, and does admit, that from in or about August 2024 through in or about October 7, 2024, in the Western District of Oklahoma: 1) Defendant knowingly received, conspired to receive, and attempted to receive, firearms and ammunition; and 2) Defendant knew or had reasonable cause to believe that the firearms and ammunition would be used to commit a Federal crime of terrorism, specifically conspiring and attempting to provide material support and resources to ISIS, a designated FTO.



Maximum Penalty, Restitution, and Special Assessment

- 4. The maximum penalty that could be imposed as a result of this plea is no more than 15 years of imprisonment or a fine of \$250,000.00, or both such fine and imprisonment, as well as a mandatory special assessment of \$100.00 and a term of supervised release of no more than three years.
- 5. In addition to the punishment described above, a plea of guilty will affect Defendant's immigration status, as further described below in paragraphs 13 through 20. Defendant is not a citizen of the United States, and a guilty plea will result in deportation and removal from the United States, will prevent Defendant from ever lawfully reentering or remaining in the United States, and will result in the denial of naturalization. Further, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives any right, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 4100, et seq., to request to transfer service of any sentence of imprisonment or part thereof to Defendant's home country.
- 6. In addition, the Court must order the payment of restitution to any victim(s) of the offense. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 3663(a)(3) and 3663A, the parties agree that, as part of the sentence resulting from Defendant's plea, the Court will enter an order of restitution to all victims of Defendant's relevant conduct as determined by reference to the United States Sentencing Guidelines (the "Guidelines").
- 7. Defendant agrees to pay any special assessment(s) to the Office of the Court Clerk immediately following sentencing. Defendant understands that any fine or restitution ordered by the Court is immediately due unless the Court provides for payment on a date certain or in installments. If the Court imposes a schedule for payment of

restitution, Defendant agrees that such a schedule represents a minimum payment obligation and does not preclude the United States Attorney's Office from pursuing other means by which to satisfy Defendant's full and immediately enforceable financial obligations. Defendant accepts a continuing obligation to pay in full, as soon as possible, any financial obligation imposed by the Court. Defendant further understands that a failure to abide by the terms of any restitution schedule imposed by the Court may result in further action by the Court.

8. For certain statutory offenses, the Court must also impose a term of supervised release, which Defendant will begin to serve after being released from custody. For all other offenses, the Court may impose a term of supervised release to be served following release from custody. During the term of supervised release, Defendant will be subject to conditions that will include prohibitions against violating local, state, or federal law, reporting requirements, restrictions on travel and residence, and possible testing for controlled substance use. If Defendant violates the conditions of supervised release, the Court may revoke Defendant's supervised release and sentence Defendant to an additional term of imprisonment. This additional term of imprisonment would be served without credit for the time Defendant successfully spent on supervised release. When combined, the original term of imprisonment and any subsequent term of imprisonment the Court imposes may exceed the statutory maximum prison term allowable for the offense.

Defendant Initials AH

Financial Disclosures

- 9. Defendant agrees to disclose all assets in which Defendant has any interest or over which Defendant exercises control, directly or indirectly, including those held by a spouse, nominee, or any other third party. Upon request by the United States, Defendant agrees (1) to complete truthfully and sign under penalty of perjury a Financial Statement of Debtor by the change-of-plea hearing, or a date otherwise agreed to by the United States, and (2) to provide updates with any material changes in circumstances, as described in 18 U.S.C. § 3664(k), within seven days of the event giving rise to such changes. Defendant understands that the United States will take Defendant's compliance with these requests into account when it makes a recommendation to the Court regarding Defendant's acceptance of responsibility.
- obtain a credit report on Defendant, in order to evaluate Defendant's ability to satisfy any financial obligations imposed by the Court. Finally, Defendant agrees to notify the Financial Litigation Program ("FLP") of the United States Attorney's Office and to obtain permission from FLP before Defendant transfers any interest in property with a value exceeding \$1,000.00, owned directly, indirectly, individually, or jointly by Defendant, including any interest held or owned under any name, including trusts, partnerships, or corporations. Defendant acknowledges a continuing obligation to notify and obtain permission from FLP for any transfers of the above-described property until full satisfaction of any restitution, fine, special assessment, or other financial obligations imposed by the Court.

Defendant Initials Ab

Sentencing Guidelines

11. The parties acknowledge that 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) directs the Court to consider certain factors in imposing sentence, including the Guidelines promulgated by the United States Sentencing Commission. Consequently, although the parties recognize that the Guidelines are only advisory, they have entered into certain stipulations and agreements with respect to the Guidelines. Based upon the information known to the parties on the date that this Plea Agreement is executed, they expect to take, but are not limited to, the following positions at sentencing:

The parties agree Defendant should receive a two-level downward adjustment for Defendant's acceptance of responsibility, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a), if Defendant commits no further crimes, does not falsely deny or frivolously contest relevant conduct, and fully complies with all other terms of this Plea Agreement. Further, if the Court applies that two-level downward adjustment, the United States will move for an additional one-level downward adjustment under U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b) if it determines that Defendant qualifies for the additional adjustment based on the timeliness of Defendant's acceptance of this Plea Agreement and other appropriate considerations in U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1 and its application notes.

Apart from any expressed agreements and stipulations, the parties reserve the right to advocate for, and present evidence relevant to, other Guidelines adjustments and sentencing factors for consideration by the United States Probation Office and the Court, including application of U.S.S.G. § 3A1.4 (Terrorism Adjustment).

12. The parties have entered into this Plea Agreement under the provisions of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(A) and 11(c)(1)(B). Defendant acknowledges and understands that the Court is not bound by, nor obligated to accept, these stipulations, agreements, or recommendations of the United States or Defendant. And, even if the Court rejects one or more of these stipulations, agreements, or recommendations, that fact alone would not allow Defendant to withdraw Defendant's plea of guilty. Upon Defendant's signing of this Plea Agreement, the United States intends to end its investigation of the allegations in the Information, as to Defendant, except insofar as required to prepare for further hearings in this case, including but not limited to sentencing, and to prosecute others, if any, involved in Defendant's conduct. The United States agrees to end any investigation directed specifically at the foregoing stipulations, agreements, or recommendations as to Defendant. However, subject to the terms and conditions of this Plea Agreement and Plea Supplement, the United States expressly reserves the right to take positions that deviate from the foregoing stipulations, agreements. or recommendations in the event that material credible evidence requiring such a deviation is discovered during the course of its investigation after the signing of this Plea Agreement or arises from sources independent of the United States, including the United States Probation Office.

Stipulation to Judicial Order of Removal

13. Defendant agrees to the entry of a stipulated judicial order of removal pursuant to 8 U.S.C. §§ 1228(c)(5) and 1227. Specifically, defendant admits that he is a native and citizen of Afghanistan and that he is removable from the United States pursuant

to 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(2)(A)(iii), as an alien who is convicted of an aggravated felony. In particular, the conviction is an aggravated felony as defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(43)(E)(ii).

- 14. <u>Voluntary Waiver of Rights</u>: After consultation with counsel and understanding of legal consequences of doing so, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to the notice and hearing provided for 8 U.S.C. § 1228(c)(2) and further waives any and all rights to appeal, reopen, reconsider, or otherwise challenge this stipulated removal order. Defendant understands and knowingly waives his right to a hearing before an immigration judge or any other authority under the Immigration and Nationality Act ("INA"), on the question of Defendant's removability from the United States. Defendant further understands the rights Defendant would possess in a contested administrative proceeding and waives these rights, including Defendant's right to examine the evidence against him, to present evidence on his behalf, and to cross-examine the witnesses presented by the government.
- 15. Defendant agrees to waive his rights to any and all forms of relief or protection from removal, deportation, or exclusion under the INA, as amended, and related federal regulations. These rights include, but are not limited to, the ability to apply for the following forms of relief or protection from removal: asylum; withholding of removal under 8 U.S.C. § 1231(b)(3); any protection from removal pursuant to Article 3 of the United Nations Convention Against Torture, including withholding or deferral or removal under 8 C.F.R. § 208; cancellation of removal; adjustment of status; registry; *de novo* review of a denial or revocation of temporary protected status (current or future); waivers

under 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(h) or 1182(i); visa petitions; consular processing; and voluntary departure or any other possible relief or protection from removal available under the Constitution, laws or treaty obligations of the United States. As part of this agreement, Defendant specifically acknowledges and states that Defendant has not been persecuted in, and has no present fear of persecution in Afghanistan on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. Similarly, Defendant further acknowledges and states that Defendant has not been tortured and has no present fear of torture in Afghanistan.

- 16. Defendant hereby requests that an order be issued by this Court for his removal to Afghanistan. Defendant agrees to accept a written order of removal as a final disposition of these proceedings and waives any and all rights to challenge any provision of this agreement in any United States or foreign court or tribunal.
- 17. Defendant hereby agrees to make the judicial order of removal a public document, waiving his privacy rights, including his privacy rights under 8 C.F.R. § 208.6. At the request of the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") concurs with the government's request for a judicial order of removal. As a result of the above-referenced order, upon the completion of Defendant's criminal proceedings, including any sentence of incarceration and any court-imposed supervision, Defendant shall be removed to Afghanistan.
- 18. <u>Assistance in the Execution of Removal</u>: Defendant agrees to assist ICE in the execution of his removal. Specifically, Defendant agrees to assist ICE in the procurement of any travel or other documents necessary for Defendant's removal; to meet

Defendant Initials Ab

with and to cooperate with representatives of the country or countries to which Defendant's removal is directed; and, to execute those forms, applications, or waivers needed to execute or expedite Defendant's removal. Defendant further understands that his failure or refusal to assist ICE in the execution of his removal shall breach this plea agreement and may subject Defendant to criminal penalties under 8 U.S.C. § 1253.

- 19. Defendant understands that this order of removal terminates his lawful permanent resident status. 8 C.F.R. § 1001.1(p). Once removed, his conviction, which constitutes an aggravated felony, makes him inadmissible and permanently ineligible to return to the United States. See 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A).
- 20. Re-entry and Penalties: Defendant concedes that the entry of this judicial order of removal renders him permanently inadmissible to the United States. He agrees that he will not enter, attempt to enter, or transit through the United States without first seeking and obtaining permission to do so from the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security or other designated representative of the U.S. government.

Waiver of Right to Appeal and Bring Collateral Challenge

Defendant understands that the Court will consider the factors set forth in 18 21. U.S.C. § 3553(a) in determining Defendant's sentence. Defendant also understands that the Court has jurisdiction and authority to impose any sentence within the statutory maximum for the offense(s) to which Defendant is pleading guilty. Defendant further understands that 28 U.S.C. § 1291 and 18 U.S.C. § 3742 give Defendant the right to appeal the judgment and sentence imposed by the Court. Acknowledging all of this, and in exchange for the promises and concessions made by the United States in this Plea Agreement, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the following rights:

- a. Defendant waives the right to appeal Defendant's guilty plea, and any other aspect of Defendant's conviction, including but not limited to any rulings on pretrial suppression motions or any other pretrial dispositions of motions and issues;
- b. Except as stated immediately below, Defendant waives the right to appeal Defendant's sentence, including any restitution, and the manner in which the sentence is determined, including its procedural reasonableness. If the sentence is above the advisory Guidelines range determined by the Court to apply to Defendant's case, this waiver does not include Defendant's right to appeal the substantive reasonableness of Defendant's sentence:
- c. Defendant waives the right to appeal or collaterally challenge the length and conditions of supervised release, as well as any sentence imposed upon a revocation of Defendant's supervised release;
- d. Defendant waives the right to collaterally challenge or move to modify (under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(2), or any other ground) Defendant's conviction or sentence, including any restitution, except with respect to claims of ineffective assistance of counsel. In addition, Defendant specifically waives the right to file a motion for compassionate release under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)(i) or to appeal the denial of any such motion.

Defendant Initials A

Defendant acknowledges that these waivers remain in full effect and are enforceable, even if the Court rejects one or more of the positions of the United States or Defendant set forth in paragraph 11.

22. Except as stated immediately below, the United States agrees to waive its right under 18 U.S.C. § 3742 to appeal the sentence imposed by the Court and the manner in which the sentence was determined. If the sentence is below the advisory Guidelines range determined by the Court to apply in this case, this waiver does not include the right of the United States to appeal the substantive reasonableness of Defendant's sentence.

Waiver of Further Discovery

23. Defendant understands, agrees, and has had explained to him by counsel that by entering this plea agreement he is giving up the right to challenge the government's decision to withhold production of classified information and to receive further pretrial discovery from the government except as necessary to prepare for sentencing proceedings. The government has provided, and will continue to provide, any information known to the government establishing the factual innocence of Defendant.

Waiver of FOIA and Privacy Act Rights

24. Defendant waives all rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request or receive from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of this case, including but not limited to records that Defendant may seek under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, or the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 522a.

Obligations of Defendant

- 25. Defendant shall commit no further crimes. Should Defendant commit any further crimes, knowingly give false, incomplete, or misleading testimony or information, or otherwise violate any provision of this Plea Agreement, the United States will be released from any obligations, agreements, or restrictions imposed on it under this Plea Agreement, and the United States may prosecute Defendant for any and all of Defendant's federal criminal violations, including perjury and obstruction of justice. Any prosecution within the scope of this investigation that is not time-barred by the applicable statute of limitations on the date of the signing of this Plea Agreement may be brought against Defendant, notwithstanding the expiration of the statute of limitations between the signing of this Plea Agreement and the commencement of that prosecution. Defendant hereby waives all defenses based on the statute of limitations with respect to any prosecution that is not time-barred on the date that this Plea Agreement is signed.
- 26. The parties also recognize that if the Court determines that Defendant has violated any provision of this Plea Agreement or authorizes Defendant to withdraw from Defendant's knowing and voluntary guilty plea entered pursuant to this Plea Agreement: (a) all written or oral statements made by Defendant to the Court or to federal or other designated law enforcement agents, any testimony given by Defendant before a grand jury or other tribunal, whether before or after the signing of this Plea Agreement, and any leads from those statements or testimony, shall be admissible evidence in any criminal proceeding brought against Defendant; and (b) Defendant shall assert no claim under the United States Constitution, any statute, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(d)(1) and

11(f), Federal Rule of Evidence 410, or any other federal rule or law that those statements or any leads from those statements should be suppressed. Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives Defendant's rights described in this paragraph as of the time Defendant signs this Plea Agreement.

Obligations of the United States

- 27. If Defendant enters a plea of guilty as described above and fully meets all obligations under this Plea Agreement, the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma will not further prosecute Defendant for any crimes related to Defendant's participation in the transfer or receipt of firearms or ammunition in connection with a felony offense or Federal crime of terrorism, as described in the Information, during the period from in or about August 2024 through in or about October 7, 2024. This Plea Agreement does not provide any protection against prosecution for any crime not specifically described above.
- 28. Defendant understands that the sentence to be imposed upon Defendant is within the sole discretion of the Court. The United States does not make any promise or representation as to what sentence Defendant will receive. The United States reserves the right to inform the United States Probation Office and the Court of the nature and extent of Defendant's activities with respect to this case and all other activities of Defendant that the United States deems relevant to sentencing.

Signatures

29. By signing this Plea Agreement, Defendant acknowledges that Defendant has discussed the terms of the Plea Agreement with Defendant's attorney and understands and accepts those terms. Further, Defendant acknowledges that this Plea Agreement, in conjunction with the Plea Supplement filed contemporaneously under seal, contains the only terms of the agreement concerning Defendant's plea of guilty in this case, and that there are no other deals, bargains, agreements, or understandings which modify or alter these terms.

Dated this 12 day of April , 2025.

APPROVED:

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Chief, Criminal Division

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